

Joint Budget Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2005

Attendees: Ray Stevens, Bob Workman & Kerry Eagan, County Board; Rick Hoppe, Mayor's Office; Patti Newman, City Council; Marc Wullschleger, Urban Development; Brian Wachman & Robin Mahoney, United Way. Guests: Rick Carter, Jeff Chambers, and Malcolm Miles, Human Services Federation, and Stephanie Dostal, Lincoln Chamber of Commerce.

Ray Stevens called the meeting to order and minutes were unanimously approved as mailed. Two topics for this afternoon are the CSI 6-month review; and an update on Hurricane Katrina evacuees.

Rick Carter introduced his team and gave a brief history of how the Human Services Federation came to be coordinating the CSI project. He outlined the framework of CSI and noted he was very pleased with Coalition progress to-date. He said paid quality coalition leadership has made a huge success. Additional funds from particular projects have, of course, helped as well. By June 2006 there should be a report to the community that clearly tells us the State of Human Services in this community.

Malcolm Miles talked about Coalition activities. Basic & Emergency Needs have developed an inventory, identified gaps and are in the process of truly defining self-sufficiency. Behavior Health is focusing on anti-stigma campaigns and insurance parity. Early Care/Youth Development held the Mayor's Summit in June 2005 and has trained 155 youth workers to-date. Early Care is examining the possibility of implementing a quality rating system. Family Violence is coordinating efforts and data around both children and adults. Each of these 4 Coalitions has developed measurable objectives.

Stephanie Miller presented the Chamber of Commerce role in the area of CSI-Social Marketing campaign. She said it was excellent to involve the Chamber because both benefit. They have contracted The Minnow Project (Carol Jess) to conduct the CSI campaign. They have a time line developed that should rollout a very professional campaign by January 2006.

Jeff Chambers reviewed the United Way State of Caring Index. We will be comparing those 6 major areas of education, health, volunteerism, safety, economics and environment in 7 "sister" cities to Lincoln. Over time we will also be laying our own baseline data for Lincoln. Jeff explained there were a few kinks to work out yet but basically it was going to be a very useful tool. The table was then opened for questions.

Bob Workman said this looked great but questioned the safety area in comparison to other cities. Jeff explained sometimes we are not comparing apples-to-apples because of different reporting procedures. It is one of those kinks we need to massage. Both

Robin and Kit expressed satisfaction in the movement and activities of the Coalitions. Ray asked how often this snapshot would be done. Jeff said every 6 months would be great; but, for sure, it will be done annually. Ray noted that millions of dollars are invested in human services to make our city better for businesses.

Rick Hoppe gave us an update on Hurricane Katrina. He said the latest word from the Governor's office is that FEMA will probably not be sending any evacuees to Lincoln or Omaha. People's City Mission, however, is still planning to bring in 200 (100 at a time). On 09/07/05 the People's City Mission invited interested churches to attend a meeting to discuss church "adoption" of families. Over 100 were in attendance and willing to take in one or more families. It should also be noted that around 25-30 evacuees are already in Lincoln; either because they have family here or are on their way through Lincoln at this time. Optional locations for FEMA evacuees include: St. Mark's on 84th & Pioneers Blvd; Lancaster County Events Center; or Airpark Rec Center. The goal would be to house people in congregate living for no more than 9 days and then have them housed.

Robin and Brian reported that United way will be kicking off their 2005-06 campaign this week. This next year they will be narrowing their focus of funding to DV, Child Outreach and hunger & homelessness.

Kit noted that since TAG dollars are gone, the New Americans Task Force (via the County) will be seeking \$87,500 from 5 local foundations. SECC has received \$125,000 from the NE Dept. of Labor & Education to continue employment related ESL classes; and Lincoln Literacy has received \$10,000 to assist with the "Women's ESL Group". This would constitute a total project again of \$222, 500.

It was suggested our next meeting be held Friday, October 28, 2005; 8:30 am in the Mayor's Conference Room. The Indian Center will be invited to make a short presentation.

Respectfully submitted,

Kit Boesch, Staff